REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 6 have been amended. Claims 1-8 remain in the application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Mitsui. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. The claims have been amended to obviate the rejection. (In addition, certain limitations have been deleted from the claims. Remarks made previously in connection with now-deleted limitations may no longer be applicable to the claimed invention.)

Claims 1-8 as amended each say that the recited "disk holding member" has an edge (or front end) "of a smooth shape without unevenness to reduce resistance . . . against an air stream when the disk rotates." Mitsui fails to disclose or suggest these important aspects of the claimed invention. Therefore, the rejection based on Mitsui should be withdrawn.

As explained in Applicant's specification, a disk holding member having an edge of a smooth shape without unevenness makes it possible to reduce resistance of the edge against an air stream when the disk rotates at a high speed, and to thus reduce the probability of generating Karman vortices. The smooth shape without unevenness makes it possible to suppress wind roar and reduce noise generated when the disk rotates at a high speed. At the same time, due to the disk holding member, the disk can be held stably, and the appearance of the disk rotational device is not blemished. (It should be noted that the above technical advantages are achievable no matter how the disk rotational device and the disk tray unit are installed, horizontally or vertically.)

In contrast to the present invention, Mitsui is directed to solving the problem of a disk slipping down from a disk tray, so as to realize a vertical installation. Technical problems occurring when the disk rotates at a high speed (as addressed by the present invention) are not addressed by Mitsui.

The present invention is illustrated, for example, in Fig. 3. To reduce the resistance of the edge of the disk holding member (eaves 88) against the air stream when the disk rotates at a high speed, suppress generation of Karman vortices, and suppress the wind roar and noise generated when the disk rotates at a high speed, the disk holding member (eaves 88) is configured to have an edge of a smooth shape without unevenness. Furthermore, to reduce the resistance of the edges of the eaves 88 against the air stream when the disk rotates at a high speed, certainly, it is not sufficient to just make the edge of each of plural eaves 88 a smooth shape without unevenness, but rather the edges of all of the eaves 88 should constitute a smooth shape without unevenness.

This feature is not disclosed at all in Mitsui. In Mitsui, tongue parts 40_{-6} to 40_{-13} are illustrated in FIG. 1 and are described in column 5, lines 9-25. As illustrated in Mitsui, the tongue parts 40_{-6} to 40_{-13} are separate from each other, and there are intervals between them. It is apparent that the collection of the peripheral edge of the tongue parts 40_{-6} to 40_{-13} as a whole does not constitute a smooth shape but has great unevenness. The Mitsui structure would not reduce the resistance against the air stream when the disk rotates at a high speed, suppress generation of Karman vortices, or suppress the wind roar and noises generated when the disk rotates at a high speed.

For at least the foregoing reasons, allowance of the application, as amended, is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

By _____

Mark J. Thronson
Registration No.: 33,082
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
1825 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-5403
(202) 420-4742
Attorneys for Applicant